

Applicants submit that the search and examination of Claims 1-13 drawn to a method, Claims 29-43 drawn to a method and Claims 14-28 and 44-49 drawn to a material system can be made without serious burden to the examiner.

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Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration by the Examiner to examine Claims 1-43 together on the merits.

In the event that the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to the prompt allowance of these claims that could be clarified with a telephone conference, he is respectfully requested to initiate the same with the undersigned at (925) 422-6458.

Respectfully submitted,



Ann M. Lee
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 47,741

Dated: 9/25/02